

REMARKS

The office action and prior art references that have been cited have been carefully considered together with the present application and amendments have been made to the abstract, specification and claims in an effort to place the application in condition for allowance.

Applicant notes that the restriction requirement has been made final and that claims 10-14 and 21-39 are withdrawn from further consideration. However, applicant does not concede that there will not be an allowable generic or linking claim and therefore has not cancelled these claims at this time.

The drawings have been objected to because of the omission of the reference number 156. Accordingly, Fig. 8 has been corrected and is attached herewith to bring the drawings into compliance. The examiner has also objected to the drawings because of the “on/off switch” of claim 15 must be shown. It is submitted that claim 15 refers to claim 8 which refers to claim 1 and that the switch (which is switch 96) is clearly shown in the drawings and described in the specification. Applicant does not understand why the examiner refers to switch 96 as being an “on/off” switch, as it is not believed to be described as such.

It is noted that the disclosure has been objected to because of identified informalities. The specification as well as the abstract have been amended to overcome these objections. Claims 1 and 9 have also been objected to because of formalities. These informalities have also been addressed and amended to overcome them.

The examiner has rejected claims 1, 3-5 and 19-20 as being anticipated by Luttmmer ‘770 and that the remaining claims except for claim 6 have been rejected over Luttmmer in view of Mathauser ‘258 and that claim 6 has been rejected over Luttmmer in view of Mathauser and Huang ‘157. Claims 1 and 20 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 2 together with other features. Dependent claims that previously depended on claim 2 have been amended to correct their dependency.

It is strongly believed that Luttmer in view of Mathauser fails to teach or suggest the table saw as defined in amended claim 1. The examiner states that Luttmer discloses a fence 106 that is physically coupled to the fence via a magnet but that Luttmer does not disclose that the fence has a protrusion configured to receive a recess in said member. If Fig. 2 of Luttmer is carefully examined, it is seen that the bracket 120 on which the magnet is connected (column 2, lines 48 and 49) is shown being positioned in a horizontal slot in the guide rail 104. While the specification of Luttmer states that the fence 106 is removable, it is clear that the fence 106 must be pulled forward so that the bracket 120 and magnet 114 can clear the front of the guide rail 104 before it can be lifted upwardly. This is a very unusual fence construction and may be an impractical one.

Such construction fails to teach or suggest the claimed table saw of claim 1, particularly the last paragraph of the claim: a member physically connecting said sensing unit, said display unit and said processing unit together, said fence having an elongated protrusion configured to engage a recess in said member, whereby said fence is physically coupled to said sensing unit by the protrusion contacting said recess when said fence is attached to said fence rail, and is physically decoupled when said fence is removed from said fence rail. Luttmer simply does not meet or suggest this construction and functionality.

The examiner then submits that Luttmer can be combined with Mathauser, but there is no teaching or suggestion in these patents for combining either of them with the other. The examiner states that it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have provided a recessive engagement between the magnetic ends of the Luttmer device in view of the teachings of Mathauser in order to have a stronger connection between the fence and member. Mathauser has nothing to do with table saws but merely uses magnetic attraction for making electrical connections and uses male and female couplings to align connector halves.

Luttmer discusses in detail the advantages of the magnetic coupler means and nowhere in this discussion including column 2, line 45 through column 3, line 9 is

there stated, implied or inferred that any deficiency exists in his construction that would warrant modification. Nor is it understood how such a modification would be accomplished since the magnet 114 abuts an end plate 118 of the read head and such male and female interaction between these two would be in the wrong plane and would not increase the interconnection between these two components in the direction that the read head slides along the rail. In other words, there would be no benefit to such male and female interconnection in the end-to-end contact between these components.

Such a combination of Luttmer and Mathauser is fanciful speculation that is borne out of improper hindsight reconstruction. Applicant's claimed table saw operates in a completely different manner and does not use a magnetic coupler.

Neither Luttmer nor Mathauser, applied singularly or in combination, teach the table saw of claim 1, particularly for the reason that neither has a member physically connecting said sensing unit, said display unit and said processing unit together, said fence having an elongated protrusion configured to engage a recess in said member, whereby said fence is physically coupled to said fencing unit by the protrusion contacting said recess when said fence is attached to said fence rail and is physically decoupled when said fence is removed from said fence rail. Such structure and functionality is not dependent upon the type of material that is used in the construction of the members, i.e., whether they are aluminum or ferromagnetic material or whatever. Applicant's claimed table saw does not rely upon a magnetic coupling as is required for Luttmer and Mathauser and the interaction of the protrusion and recess achieves a strong physical coupling, while permitting the fence to be easily removed from the fence rail.

Amended claim 20 is similarly not taught or suggested by Luttmer or Mathauser, applied singularly or in combination with one another for neither of these patents have a member physically connecting said sensing unit, said display unit and said processing unit together, said fence having an elongated pin extending downwardly and being configured to engage a generally vertically oriented slot in said member whereby said fence is physically coupled to said sensing unit when said fence is attached to said

fence rail. The arguments that have been made with regard to amended claim 1 equally applied to this claim and its structure is more specifically described in a manner that further differentiates the table saw as claimed from these references.

The dependent claims necessarily incorporate the features of the independent claims from which they depend and in addition recite other features and functionality. For these reasons, the dependent claims are also believed to be in condition for immediate allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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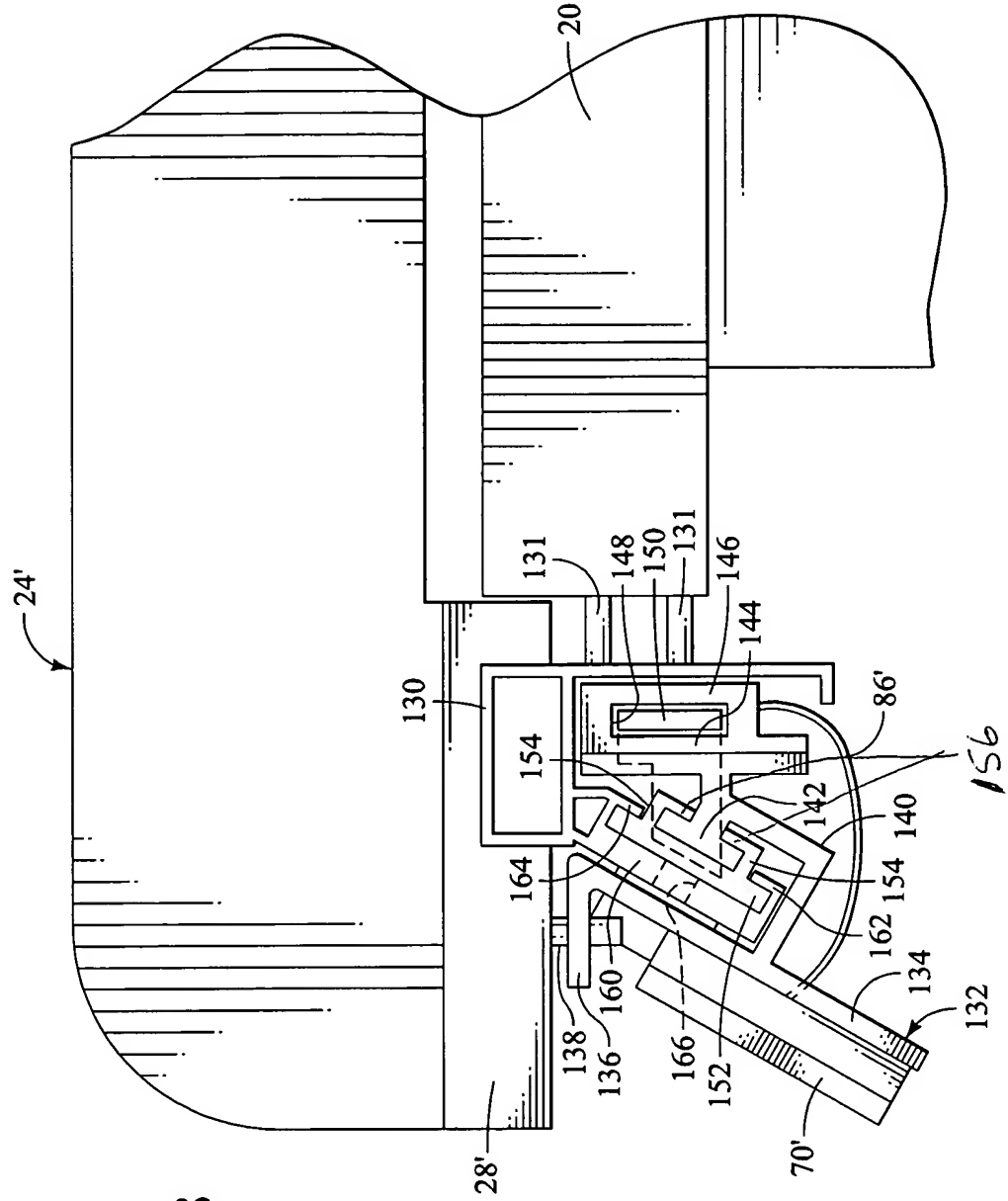


FIG. 8

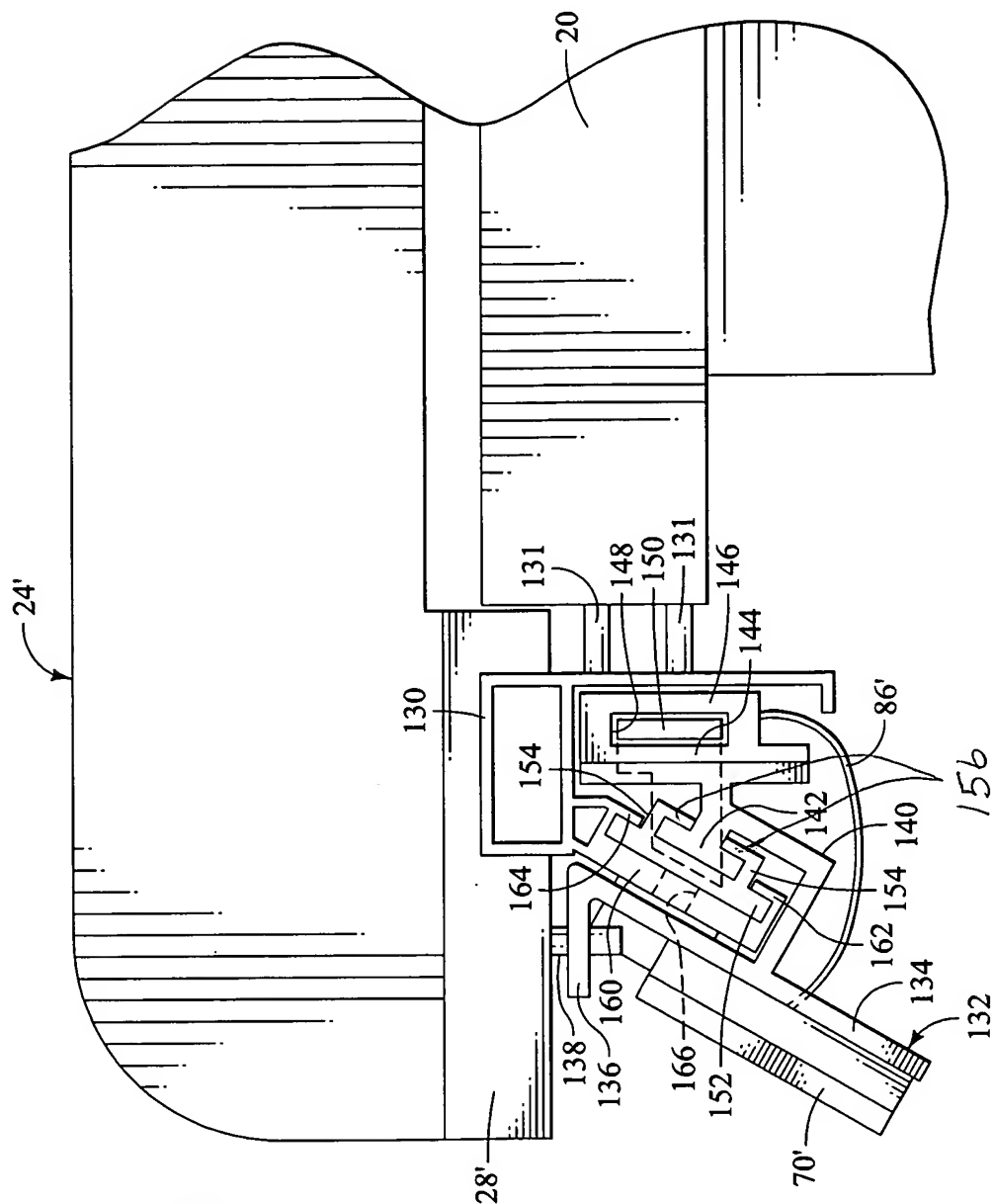


FIG. 8